

TOWN OF CHATHAM
488 State Route 295
Chatham, New York 12037

TOWN BOARD MEETING
October 18, 2018
6:00 PM

PRESENT

Supervisor Maria Lull, Councilman Bob Balcom, Councilwoman Landra Haber, Councilman John Wapner, Councilman Kevin Weldon, Budget Officer Tammy Shaw, Justice James Borgia-Forster, Town Clerk Beth Anne Rippel

Supervisor Lull called the meeting to order at 6PM and followed with the pledge to the flag.

OLD BUSINESS

Tammy Shaw began with the 2019 Budget. She had increased salaries by 2% for all but bargaining employees and the Boards. Figured unemployment for a parks maintenance person and the overall budget increase for 2019 is .7854%

*There are concerns about the Recreation budget. Wapner feels it's too tight, there's no cushion.

*Judge Borgia –Forster was in attendance to advocate for the court clerks. He feels they are doing a complicated/demanding job and deserve a bigger raise. Borgia-Forster said the Judges have had only 1 raise in 7 years and figures they are paid about \$15-\$19/hr.. They are the busiest court in the county and they'd like a raise. Lull said it was admirable that he was there for his clerks but the raises this year would be 2%. In 2016 they did a reality based budget and the finance committee categorized all clerks and designated hours and rates. Lull thinks the Chatham court clerks are the highest paid in the County. The Finance Committee looked at salaries and made recommendations to the Town Board. The judges are on par with other judges in the County.

RESOLUTION 156-2018

WHEREAS, the Chatham Town Board has reviewed and discussed the Tentative Budget for 2019, and **WHEREAS**, the Chatham Town Board has considered the fire protection and EMS contracts between the Town of Chatham and the Chatham Fire Department, Niverville Fire Department, Tri-Village Fire Company, East Chatham Fire Company, Red Rock Fire Company and Chatham Rescue Squad and Valatie Rescue Squads, and **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Town Board moves that the Tentative 2019 Budget be moved to the Preliminary 2019 Budget and directs the Town Clerk to post a Public Hearing Notice to be scheduled on November 1, 2018 for the purpose of accepting public comment on the 2019 Preliminary Budget and the fire protection and EMS contracts between the Town of Chatham and the Chatham Fire Department, Niverville Fire Department, Tri-Village Fire Company, East Chatham Fire Company, Red Rock Fire Company and Chatham Rescue Squad and Valatie Rescue Squads. Motion was made by Councilman Weldon and second by Councilwoman Haber

The overall increase is .7854. We are \$62,029.00 under the tax cap. Lull said that a good bit of work has been done to keep the 2019 budget at almost zero increase. Balcom feels that the Board is getting a better handle on revenue; we are building a nice base for our budgets.

VOTE

AYE: Lull, Balcom, Haber, Wapner, Weldon NAY: None Resolution adopted

CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter from Charter Communications Upcoming Changes
- Email from Tracey Hitchen Boyd, Assistant NYS Comptroller, on Town's Fiscal Stress score

PUBLIC COMMENT STATEMENT

The Chatham Town Board appreciates information received from the public during the Public Comment portion of each meeting, which often is very helpful in the governance of the Town. It is, however, not intended to be a debate with the public or a question and answer period. Issues raised during the public comment may be addressed by the Board during its regular meeting or by the Supervisor between meetings as necessary. As a courtesy to the other members of the public, there is a 5 minute per person limitation on oral comments for each public comment period. The public is also encouraged to provide the Board with written comments or materials when the subject matter cannot be presented in this time frame. Of course, while the Board discourages any remarks which may be considered defamatory or stigmatizing, it will not restrict the content of the public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Report by Councilman Wapner and Councilman Weldon regarding the Recreation & Parks Committee. Wapner said they have review the 2007 park plan and they'll update it with relevant goals. They won't be doing a survey. They plan on calling "key people" instead. Then they'll look a feasible ways to fund the goals. Kenneth Fey will begin work on the chess boards down at the park
- Report by Councilman Balcom on the meetings of the Citizens Finance and Planning Committee. All is quiet for now.
- Report by Councilman Balcom on the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee. They're working on the subdivision component and it will go to the TB
- Report by Councilwoman Haber and Councilman Weldon on Climate Smart Community Committee. Deborah Conrad is the newest committee member. Weldon reported that the highway heating system backup system is ready. The committee is looking for their next project. Lull met with the NYS Police the trees that have to come down for the new barracks will go to the highway garage to fuel the wood boiler.
- Report by Councilwoman Haber on the Communications Committee.

REPORTS

- Highway Department – on file
- Assessor – on file
- Code Enforcement/Building Inspector
- Dog Control
- Environmental Management Council
- Finance Department Report – on file
- Justice Court – on file

- Office of the Aging Advisory Board
- Recreation Director - on file
- Supervisor's Report
- Town Accounting firm – Monthly Financial Report & Abstract - on file
- Town Attorney
- Town Clerk

NEW BUSINESS

Resignation of Councilwoman Landra Haber. Councilwoman Haber “sadly says goodbye” stating personal reasons, “something has to give” she said. Haber’s resignation will be effective October 31, 2018.

Lulls reported that the SP looked at the building site again and are planning on being in by the Fall 2019. The design will not impact the Stonykill Disc Golf Course.

Lull said the Greenbrook project has been completed. There is beaver activity but it is on private property.

OLD BUSINESS

- Discuss Tentative Town of Chatham 2019 Budget

RESOLUTIONS

- **Resolution 153-2018** to accept the financial Abstract as present to pay the Town’s bills.

Offered by Councilwoman Haber and seconded by Councilman Weldon.

VOTE

Aye: Lull, Balcom, Haber, Wapner, Weldon Nay: None Resolution adopted

- **Resolution 154-2018** to accept the town accountant’s financial report of September 30, 2018. Offered by Councilman Weldon and seconded by Councilwoman Haber.

VOTE

Aye: Lull, Balcom, Haber, Wapner, Weldon Nay: None Resolution adopted

- **Resolution 155-2018** to approve the minutes of the Town Board Meeting(s) of August 9, 2018 and September 20, 2018. Offered by Councilwoman Haber and seconded by Councilman Weldon.

VOTE

Aye: Lull, Balcom, Haber, Wapner, Weldon Nay: None Resolution adopted

- **Resolution 156-2018** to move the Tentative 2019 Town of Chatham Budget to Preliminary 2019 Budget and set a Public Hearing for November 1, 2018.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Adele Kleiman-Levine thanked Haber for her service and wished her well.

Amelia Teasdale asked about the Town not funding the maintenance of the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail. Lull stated that it is an unfunded mandate and would cost the Town 4-5K to maintain it, the Town does not have the finds.

MOTION TO CLOSE MEETING

On a motion by Councilwoman Haber, second by Councilman Wapner and carried the board adjourned at 7:05PM

Respectfully submitted by,
Beth Anne Rippel, RMC
Town Clerk